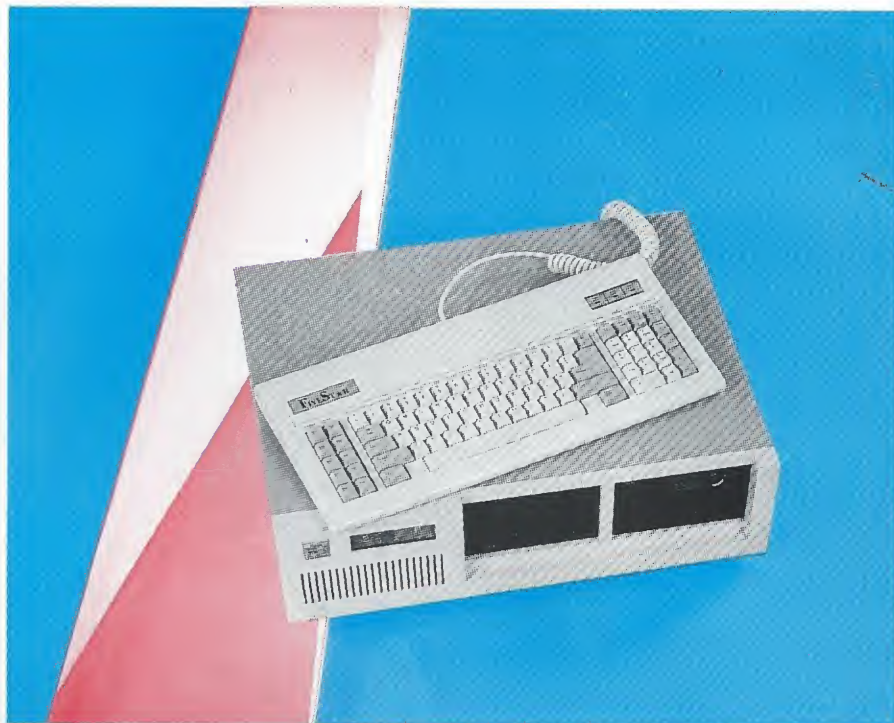


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*The FiveStar AT may look like another clone, but underneath the hood one difference is immediately apparent: the machine has 12 expansion slots. Other thoughtful extras include a hardware reset switch on the back and a Maxi-Switch AT-compatible keyboard.*

## FiveStar AT

In the world of low-cost AT compatibles, you're sometimes forced to look hard for the subtleties that distinguish one product from another. Removing the cover of the FiveStar AT reveals one difference immediately: this machine has 12 (no kidding) expansion slots. Even after you add all the necessary video and drive controller cards, you will still have 10 open slots. This feature makes the FiveStar an appealing choice for those who plan to add every possible type of expansion card.

The FiveStar is manufactured in Korea, which should be considered a plus. Korean firms are expending a great deal of effort to enforce good quality control.

The machine we tested had 1 megabyte of RAM, a high-capacity floppy drive, one parallel and two serial ports, a Hercules-compatible monochrome graphics card, and a software switch (CPU.COM) to toggle between the 6- and 8-MHz clock speeds. The FiveStar also has a hardware reset switch on the back.

The FiveStar AT's performance is satisfactory. It isn't the fastest machine tested, but it did all we asked without complaint and displayed no software compatibility problems.

The 30-megabyte hard disk tested as "meeting IBM specs" on the Core International test. That means it's not as fast as the highest-performance drives available, but it's dependable and not as expensive.

**The FiveStar AT's performance . . . Did all we asked without complaint and displayed no software compatibility problems.**

The design and layout of the FiveStar's interior are clean and appear rugged enough to handle whatever add-ons you might want to fill all those expansion slots with. In fact, the abundance of expansion slots is really the FiveStar AT's most distinctive feature. While it performs adequately, is (naturally) low priced, and has the expected AT-compatible trappings, the surplus of slots is its biggest asset—if you need the room. —Jon Pepper



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